

Health Insurance Advisory Council

September 20, 2005 5 - 6:30 PM - DBR Hearing Room

Minutes

1. Attendance:

Members: Rick Brooks, Domenic Delmonico, Patrick Quinn, Howard Dulude,, Serena Sposato, Hub Brennan, Matthew Stark, Annemarie Monks, Peter Quattromani, Dan Egan, Ann Rhodes, Craig O' Connor, Chris Koller, Dawn Wardyga

Health Plans: Tom Boyd, Jason Martesian, Ken Pariseau

OHIC Staff. John Cogan, Adrienne Evans

Excused: Mike Frazier, Lisa Ahart

2. Introductions

Members of the Council, Health Plan Representatives and Staff introduced themselves.

3. Why are we here

a. Enabling legislation for Health Insurance Commissioner

i. Chris Koller reviewed the enabling legislation for the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIO) and the context surrounding its creation by the legislature in 2004. This legislation, to the original responsibilities of guarding financial solvency and consumer protection, added three more:

1. Encourage fair treatment of health care providers;

2. Encourage policies and developments that improve the quality and efficiency of health care service delivery and outcomes; and

3. View the health care system as a comprehensive entity and

encourage and direct insurers towards policies that advance the welfare of the public through overall efficiency, improved health care quality, and appropriate access.

In response to a question, Mr. Koller noted that the OHIC at this time has no specific new guidance, statutes or regulation for carrying out these three additional responsibilities

b. Five minutes on Health Insurance Regulation (attachment distributed) i. Mr. Koller gave an overview of the main functions of Health Insurance regulation in Rhode Island (separate from Managed Care, which is overseen by DOH) and the relationship of the OHIC to DBR.

c. Review of Charter Document

i. The group discussed a draft charter.

1 .There was discussion of how to incorporate public comment and attendance. For now, the agenda will be distributed through an interested parties list, and posted on the web site. Public comment will be solicited either at the beginning or the end of the meeting as requests for future agenda items.

2. Nominations. More members welcome. Need for consumers and small business cited. Members are asked to forward names to Mr. Koller.

Q. Changes and clarifications were made and accepted by consensus. A revised charter is attached.

iii. Co-Chair: After motion and second, the council unanimously elected Rick Brooks to serve a one year term as Co-Chair.

d. Proposed Purpose Statement

i. The group reviewed the following purpose statement: "The Health Insurance Advisory Council, established under RI law 42-14, exists to obtain information and present concerns to the Health Insurance Commissioner of consumers, business and medical providers affected by health insurance decisions."

4. What are Concerns?

a. The group brainstormed potential agenda topics for this group, based on the above purpose statement. The list is attached.

b. The Co-Chairs will review this list and develop an one year work schedule for the committee for its review at the next meeting.

(This item was on the agenda but not discussed: 5. Potential Future agenda

a. Affordability Principles (see attached document)

b. Size of Health Plan Reserves

c. Annual Meeting

d. Results of Rate Hearings

e. Relevant Pending Rulings before Commissioner i. BCBSRI Wellness Institute

ii. BCBSRI Board Compensation)

6. Next Meeting

a. Tuesday October 18t" (third Tuesday of month). 5 pm. DBR

b. Future meetings will occur on the third Tuesday of the month at this time and location.

Attachments: List of Potential Work Items Roster for HIAC

Revised Charter